

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer system for selecting and organizing individual test cases for use in testing a computer program to ensure that the program processes as intended, the system comprising:

one or more program modules storing ~~one or more~~ a plurality of available test cases, each comprising a set of instructions for testing a feature of the computer program through a language and format independent interface;

a harness client comprising a set of instructions that (i) receives user input specifying one or more filenames corresponding to the one or more program modules, (ii) ~~executes~~ initiates execution of a connector to scan for and discover the ~~one or more~~ plurality of available test cases that are stored in the one or more program modules and to organize the ~~one or more~~ plurality of available test cases into a test case hierarchy in which ~~one or more test cases comprise a test suite, and in which one or more test suites comprise a test module,~~ and (iii) receives user input indicating which of the ~~one or more~~ plurality of available test cases in the test case hierarchy are selected test cases to be executed on the computer program;

a harness comprising a set of instructions that (i) receives the test case hierarchy including the one or more program modules storing the plurality of test cases, (ii) traverses the test case hierarchy, and (iii) executes each of the ~~one or more available selected test cases that is selected to be executed on the computer program~~ using the corresponding language and format independent interface of the selected test case to ensure that the computer program processes as intended;

[[a]] the connector, initiatable by the harness client, and comprising a set of instructions that (i) scans for the ~~one or more~~ plurality of available test cases stored in the one or more program modules, (ii) organizes the ~~one or more~~ plurality of available test

cases into the test case hierarchy by extracting the ~~one or more~~ plurality of available test cases from the one or more program modules, and (iii) selectively integrates an interface between the test case hierarchy and the harness regardless of the language or format in which the one or more available test cases were written; and

a processor for executing each selected test case, the harness, the harness client, and the connector, such that a first test case written in a first language and a second test case written in a second, different language are each executable by the processor because of the language and format independent interface.

2. (Previously Presented) A computer system as recited in claim 1, wherein the set of instructions of the harness and the set of instructions of the connector utilize an architecture that defines a means for accessing a resource over a network.

3. (Previously Presented) A computer system as recited in claim 2, wherein the architecture is COM technology.

4. (Currently Amended) In a computer system that includes a processor, a computer program to be tested, a program module storing ~~one or more~~ a plurality of test cases of interest for use in testing the computer program, a harness for executing on the computer program individual selected test cases ~~of the plurality of test cases of interest on the computer program~~, a harness client for receiving user input, and a connector for interfacing between the ~~one or more~~ a plurality of test cases of interest and the harness, a method for testing the computer program to determine whether the computer program processes as intended, the method comprising the acts of:

the harness client (i) receiving user input that specifies one or more filenames to identify the program module, (ii) ~~executes~~ initiates execution of the connector to scan for and discover the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest that are stored in the program module and to organize the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest into a test case hierarchy ~~in which one or more test cases comprise a test suite, and in which one or more test suites comprise a test module~~, and (iii) receives user input indicating that at least two of the one or more plurality of test cases of interest in the test case hierarchy are the selected test cases to be executed on the computer program;

the connector scanning the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest stored in the program module, each test case having a language and format independent interface for executing the test case on the computer program regardless of the language or format used to develop the test case, wherein the connector is initiatable by the harness client;

the connector extracting the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest from the program module;

the connector organizing ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest into the test case hierarchy;

the connector interfacing the harness with the ~~one or more~~ selected test cases of interest, wherein the interfacing allows the harness to recognize and execute the ~~one or more selected~~ test cases ~~of interest~~ regardless of the language or format in which the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest were was developed; and

the harness traversing the test case hierarchy and executing each of the ~~one or more~~ selected test cases ~~of interest~~ to test the computer program, such that a first test case written in a first language and a second test case written in a second, different language

are each executable by the harness because of the language and format independent interface.

Claims 5 – 6 (cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the method further includes the step for determining whether one or more of the plurality of test cases of interest are identified as being deselected, wherein the harness traversing the test case hierarchy and executing each of the selected test cases includes not executing a deselected test case is not executed on the computer program.

Claims 8 – 9 (cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 7, wherein the user input received by the harness includes input from the user indicating selection of the first ~~upon the user selecting a test suite, and in response to the user input, the harness indicating the at least two of the one or more~~ plurality of test cases that comprise the first test suite as selected cases, and excluding any other of the plurality of test cases ~~determined to be deselected are selected from the selected test cases.~~

11. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein the user input received by the harness includes input from the user indicating selection of the test module upon the user selecting a test module, the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test suites that comprise the test module, excluding any test cases determined to be deselected are selected.

12. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the step for traversing further includes executing the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases on a thread pool comprising one or more threads.

13. (Original) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the step for traversing further includes copying a selected test case across all of the one or more threads, and wherein the

selected test case is executed across all of the one or more threads.

14. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 12, wherein the step for traversing further includes executing a selected test case on one of the threads.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for implementing within a computer system a method for testing a computer program to determine whether the computer program processes as intended, the computer program product comprising:

computer readable medium for providing computer program code means utilized to implement the method, wherein the computer program code means is comprised of executable code for implementing the acts of:

receiving user input that specifies one or more filenames to identify one or more program modules storing ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest, each comprising a set of instructions for testing a feature of the computer program through a language and format independent interface;

~~executing~~ initiating execution of a connector to scan for and discover the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest that are stored in the program module and to organize the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest into a test case hierarchy, wherein the connector is initiatable by a harness client in which one or more test cases comprise a test suite, and in which one or more test suites comprise a test module;

receiving user input indicating that at least two of the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest in the test case hierarchy are the selected test cases to be executed on the computer program;

scanning for the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest that are stored in the one or more program modules;

extracting the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest from the program module;

organizing the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest into the test case hierarchy;

interfacing with the ~~one or more~~ selected test cases ~~of interest~~ to recognize and execute the ~~one or more~~ selected test cases ~~of interest~~ regardless of the language or format in which the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest ~~were~~ was developed;

traversing the test case hierarchy; and

executing the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases of interest on the computer program, such that a first test case written in a first language and a second test case written in a second, different language are each executable by a harness because of the language and format independent interface.

16. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 15, wherein the step for traversing is performed by the harness.

17. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 15, wherein the step for interfacing is performed by one or more connectors.

Claims 18 – 19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 15, wherein the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases executed on the computer program are selected by a user through a user interface provided by [[a]] the harness client.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer program product as recited in claim 20, wherein the step for traversing further includes executing the ~~one or more~~ selected test cases on a thread pool comprising one or more threads.

22. (Original) A computer program product as recited in claim 21, wherein the step for traversing further includes copying a selected test case across all of the one or more threads, and wherein the selected test case is executed across all of the one or more threads.

23. (Previously Presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 21, wherein the step for traversing further includes executing a selected test case on one of the threads.

24. (Currently Amended) In a computer system that includes a computer program to be tested, a program module of ~~one or more~~ a plurality of test cases written in any format or language for testing the computer program, a harness for executing ~~one~~ a plurality of test cases on the computer program, a harness client for receiving user input, and one or more connectors for interfacing test cases with the harness, a method for testing the computer program to determine whether the computer program processes as intended, the method comprising steps for:

specifying one or more filenames for identifying one or more program modules storing ~~one or more~~ a plurality of test cases, each comprising a set of instructions for testing a feature of the computer program through a language and format independent interface;

identifying the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases within the one or more program modules;

translating the identified ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases into a test case hierarchy that includes the plurality of available test cases, a first test suite, a second test suite, and a test module, the first test suite including at least two of the plurality of the available test cases, the second test suite including at least another one of the plurality of the available test cases, and the test module including the first and second test suites, the test module being executable by the harness in which one or more test cases comprise a test suite, and in which one or more test suites comprise a test module;

indicating that the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases in the test case hierarchy are ~~is~~ to be executed on the computer program;

providing an interface to the test case hierarchy in order to recognize and execute the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases regardless of the language or format in which the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases ~~were~~ was written; and

running each of the ~~one or more~~ plurality of test cases in the test case hierarchy to test the computer program, wherein a first test case written in a first language and a second test case written in a second, different language are each executable on the computer program because of the language and format independent interface.



25. (Original) A method as recited in claim 24, wherein the act of executing is performed on a thread pool comprising one or more threads.

26. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 25, wherein the act of executing is further performed by executing a selected test case on one of the threads.

27. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 25, wherein the act of executing is further performed by copying the one or more selected test cases across all of the one or more threads, and wherein the selected test case is executed across all of the one or more threads.

28. (Cancelled).